PLEASE NOTE VENUE

SOUTH NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM AGENDA



Friday 28th March 2008

at 10.00 am

at Owton Rossmere Resource Centre Wynyard Road, Hartlepool

MEMBERS: SOUTH NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM:

Councillors S Cook, Flintoff, Gibbon, Hill, James, Johnson, A Lilley, G Lilley, A Marshall, Preeœ, Turner, Wistow and Young

Resident Representatives:

Ann Butterfield, Mary Green, Rose Kennedy, Michael McKie, David Roe, Iris Ryder and Michael Ward.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

4. MINUTES

- 4.1 To confirm the minutes of the South Neighbourhood Consultative Forum meeting held on 18th March 2008 *(to follow)*
- 4.2 Matters arising

5. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

PLEASE NOTE VENUE

6. **ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION** No items

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION / INFORMATION

- 7.1 Presentation Dog Control Orders *Environmental Action Manager*
- 7.2 Presentation Connected Care in Ow ton Manor Service Co-Ordinator for Connected Care

8. **ITEMS FOR DECISION**

8.1 Rossmere Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) Update (Final for Endorsement) – Head of Regeneration

9. WARDISSUES

10. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the South Area Police and Community Safety Consultative Forum is to be held on Friday 11th April 2008 commencing at 2pm at Ow ton Manor Community Centre, Wynyard Road.

The next meeting of the South Neighbourhood Consultative Forum is to be held on Friday 20th June 2008 commencing at 10 am at Ow ton Manor Community Centre, Wynyard Road.

Fens Greatham Owton Rossmere Seaton

SOUTH NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM

18 March 2008



MINUTES OF THE MEETING

The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

PRESENT:

Chair:

Councillor Bob Flintoff Councillor Steve Gibbon Councillor Cath Hill Councillor Alison Lilley Councillor Geoff Lilley Councillor Arthur Preece Councillor Michael Turner

Councillor Mick Johnson

- Rossmere Ward
- Owton Ward
- Fens Ward
- Seaton Ward
- Fens Ward
- Greatham Ward
- Fens Ward
- Seaton Ward

Resident Representatives:

A Butterfield, Rosemarie Kennedy, Iris Ryder, Michael Ward

- Public: E Grint, J Smith, D M Clark, H Oxley, ECS Taylor, JW Taylor
- Officers: Paul Briggs, Schools Transformation Project Director Peter McIntosh, Schools Transformation Manager David Mitchell, Neighbourhood Co-ordinator (South) Sarah Bird, Democratic Services Officer

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Marshall, S Cook, G Wistow, Resident Representative David Roe and the Neighbourhood Manager (South)

66. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

67. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 1 FEBRUARY 2008

The minutes were confirmed as an accurate record of the previous meeting. Councillor G Lilley asked that with reference to Minute 63 – Endeavour Housing in Greatham, it be noted that he had been in touch with the Director of Adult and Community Services in September 2007 about this issue.

4.1

68. MATTERS ARISING

Minute 56 – Public Question Time (Off Road Motorcycles) Councillor G Lilley asked whether there was any update on the location of a suitable site and the Neighbourhood Co-ordinator (South) confirmed that he would inform the Forum when there was anything further to report.

Minute 56 – Public Question Time (Parking at Fens Shops) Councillor A Lillev stated that she had been in contact with the Neighbourhood Manager (South) and the Neighbourhood Policing Acting Inspector regarding the parking abuse and had been informed that as the area was privately owned, neither the Police nor the Council parking services officers were able to enforce any restrictions. Neighbourhood However. the Coordinator (South) had written to the owner to see if he would make any attempt to put some restrictions in place and any further developments would be fed back to the Forum.

Minute 63 – Ward Issues (Traffic Calming M Block) Resident JW Taylor in highlighted that residents in the M Block had received notification from the Chief Solicitor that they had until 28 March 2008 to voice any objections to the traffic calming measures, and yet the work had already started as the funding was required to be used by the end of the financial year. He pointed out that the democratic procedure had not therefore been followed as residents had been denied the right to object. He said that despite contacting the Chief Solicitor's department, he had not received any response. The Chair agreed to make enquiries regarding this.

Minute 64 – North East Ambulance Service The Chair and other representatives of the South Neighbourhood Forum had attended one of the meetings arranged regarding the proposals to improve the resilience of Accident and Emergency Ambulances and the provision of patient transport services in the North East and had voiced their opinions on this.

69. PRIMARY CAPITAL PROGRAMME (PCP)– Stage 1 Consultation

The Schools Transformation Project Project Director and the Manager attended the meeting in order to inform the Forum that the Government has written to all local councils recently with information about a bid for extra funding to help improve primary school buildings, provide excellent facilities that are fit for learning in the 21 century and which offer full range of services for their а The consultation is being community. held in order to tell the community about the Government funding, give information about what the Authority will have to do to get its share of the money, give information about all of Hartlepool's primary schools and ask the community's opinion on what the Authority should do and how to go about it. The consultation period ends on 21 March 2008.

The Authority had printed 45,000 leaflets which had been distributed to 43,000 households in Hartlepool. 18 public meetings had been arranged (including 2 in the Owton Manor Community Centre), 3 sessions for elected Members and presentations given at the Neighbourhood Forums.

Three booklets were distributed to the Forum. Booklet one outlined the vision for transforming primary education in Hartlepool so that Hartlepool is the best place in the world for our children and young people to grow up. Resident Rep Mike Ward stated that he felt that **all** Hartlepool children should have such an opportunity and be irrespective of the area of the town in which they live. It was established that the vision for primary schools of the future were those which:-

- Played a new role at the heart of their community
- Offered 21st century learning facilities making the most of new technologies
- Provided quality school environments which provided better personalised learning opportunities and delivered world class standards
- Placed families at the centre of excellent integrated services for the benefits of their children
- Prepared children for their secondary education

The PCP is a national programme aimed at rebuilding, remodelling or refurbishing about half of all primary schools over a 14 year period from 2009 up to 2023. in order to receive funding, authorities must prepare and agree a Primary Strategy for Change (PSfC) showing how capital investment will support strategic aims.

Resident Rep Iris Ryder expressed concern that if other agencies e.g. Care Trust Primary clinics, were encouraged to use school buildings then this would cause more wear and tear on the buildings. These costs were not part of the PCP funding which was for rebuilding and re-modelling. It was established that any use by other agencies would have to be self sustaining.

Councillor A Lilley asked that any new buildings be carbon neutral using triple glazing, geo-thermal units under playgrounds, solar panels, therefore cutting energy costs. The Schools Transformation Manager said that these ideas would be taken on board and as in the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme, recycling of old materials would be done as much as possible.

The timescales for the PCP were outlined:-

- 16 June 2008 deadline for the submission of the PSfC
- September 2008 Department for Children, Schools and Families to announce the outcomes of the PSfC assessment
- April 2009 funding available for Local Authorities with approved PSfC

There were a number of pathfinder PCP Local Authorities including Darlington and North Tyneside and therefore there had been liaison with these authorities.

Initial allocations, subject to the approval of the PSfC would be £3 in 2009/10 and £5.4 in 2010/11. Following that there would be an annual allocation for each of the remaining 12 years of the programme, generating in the region of approximately £35 - £40 million.

The government expects the Local Authority to achieve:-

- Primary schools equipped for 21st century learning at the heart of the community with a full range of children's services in reach of every family
- 15% of the worst condition schools to be rebuilt or taken out of commission
- At least 50% of primary schools to be rebuilt, refurbished or remodelled to bring them up to 21st century standards
- Targeting deprivation to locally determined criteria
- All remaining primary school needs to be met through devolved formula capital

Resident J Smith asked how this programme would fit in with the Extended Schools whereby Initiative the Government had pledged that by 2010 all schools would extend their day opening from 8.00 am until 6.00 pm with breakfast clubs/after-school activities to provide child care and family learning. She stated that in her area there were no other suitable community buildings apart from the local school but this did not currently provide out of hours access. Barriers such as heating costs or lack of caretakers were cited. Councillor Gibbon asked how many schools were currently on board with the Extended Schools Initiative but those present were unable to provide figures although it was confirmed that Hartlepool was slightly ahead of target and that the Initiative would be implemented by the 2010 target as each school gets a sum of money to ensure that this takes place. Resident J Tavlor asked whether schools governing bodies could object to the extended opening of the schools but was informed that all schools had to open for the core hours but did not have to offer all facilities.

The PSfC to be submitted would include:-

- The vision for primary education in Hartlepool
- A description of Hartlepool, its people and schools
- The number of places and pupils in schools
- The condition and suitability of school buildings
- Pupil performance in each school
- How the Authority will use PCP money over the 14 year period to provide better schools
- What the Authority intended to do with the first £8.4 million the government has promised

Government guidance stated that Strategies that fail to commit to addressing the issue of standards at poor performing schools (less than 65% of pupils aged 11 achieving Level 4) would not be approved and neither would Strategies that fail to commit to addressing surplus capacity at Local Authority or individual school level would not be approved (no school should have more than 255 surplus places and there should be no more than 10% surplus capacity overall in the Authority). Councillor G Lilley asked about smaller schools catering for village small communities and asked that schools not be moved out of villages as these were vital to sustainability of communities. The Schools Transformation Project Director said that there was currently software to determine whereabouts pupils were from in relation to the school they attended and there should be a balance between local children and parental preference.

The Schools Transformation Manager stated that there was currently a 14 -15% surplus of school places within the Authority and forecasts were that this would remain the same despite residential building projects within the Borough. It was thought that 600 primary school places would need to be removed to stay within the Government targets and therefore the consultation needed to elicit views on how this should be done. Projections showed that 6 schools would have more than a 25% surplus of which 3 would have more than 40%.

The Schools Transformation Project Director outlined how there would be analysis following the consultation. There was likely to be a Stage II consultation in June/July possibly naming options for certain schools and the formal proposals for change would be put forward in the autumn after approval by the Project Board. Cabinet and Council with Government funding, if approved, by April 2009.

Councillor G Lilley stated that having enthusiastic teaching staff was instrumental to the success of schools and also asked whether reductions in class size may contribute to better schooling. The Schools Transformation Project Director said that any monies received would not be able to be used for funding of teaching staff but would be used to give teachers better tools/buildings which would improve the facilities available for the children of Hartlepool. He added that class sizes determined other funding received from Government therefore if class sizes were smaller other monies received would be reduced.

Resident Rep Mike Ward said that the residents of the Borough have not been consulted on the costs to the Council of putting forward their bid for funding and asked what spending has already taken place in preparation for the bid. The Schools Transformation Project Director said that he was unable to quantify this, but the BSF team had been used for the PSP consultation with the addition of a further member of staff. It was clarified that staff had been appointed on a substantive and not fixed term basis. He said that efficiency savings had been made from within the Children's Services Department. A proposal was then put forward by Resident Rep Mike Ward that 'The Forum requests the total cost to date from Council funds for BSF and PCP, where these funds have come from and what they have been spent All those present at the meeting on'. voted for the proposal with the exception of Councillor Cath Hill who abstained.

Councillor A Lilley asked whether there were lessons to be learned from the BSF programme, for example having one good head teacher responsible for a number of schools. The Schools Transformation Project Director said that this had been taken on board and currently Hart and Elwick Schools shared a head teacher.

Resident Rep Iris Ryder questioned how much had been spent on the production of the leaflets as she was aware that some households were in receipt of more The Schools Transformation than one. Project Director stated that the booklets had been designed by head teachers to make the information accessible to all but especially those with an interest in primary education. Primary school children had been given a leaflet to take home and households with children of secondary school age had been provided with a leaflet via Royal Mail. It had been requested that households who had received duplicate copies could return them. 13,000 of these had been printed.

Councillor Gibbon queried whether the extra staff who had been employed were permanent additions or were merely employed for the length of the project. Schools Transformation The Project Director said that the team consisted of 5 people whose skills and abilities were necessary to see the project through and because of the length of the project had been employed on a permanent basis. There was also officer time borrowed from other departments.

Councillor Hill expressed her disappointment in the non attendance of Councillor Wistow at the Forum as he had requested its meeting to view the presentation. The Chair said that the Schools Transformation Project Director had attended the previous meeting merely to give details of the dates of prearranged public meetings.

Councillor G Lilley expressed disappointment on savings made in summer play scheme provision particularly in Greatham and asked whether the savings had been invested in the Authority's PCP bid. The Schools Transformation Project Director said that the issue was unrelated as all departments within the Authority were required to make efficiency savings as lower Government funding had been expected.

Resident Dorothy Clark stated that although Greatham was not classed as a deprived area, it was not able to afford to set up its own playscheme and therefore the Community Centre was not being utilised during the summer as much as it could have been. Councillor G Lilley agreed to raise this with Council.

70. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Friday, 28 March 2008 at 10.00 am in the Owton Rossmere Resource Centre, Wynyard Road, Hartlepool.

MJOHNSON

CHAIRMAN

Connected Care in Owton Manor

<u>Owton – The Statistics</u>

- Owton is in the 5% most deprived neighbourhoods in the country.
- More than 10% of Owton residents have either never worked or are long-term unemployed.
- Over half of Owton's residents, aged 16-74 left school with no formal qualifications.
- 50% of residents have health problems.
- 27% of working age residents have a limiting long term illness.
- Reduced life expectancy.

Why is Connected Care needed?

- People did not know what services were available, where or when.
- People felt they had a lack of choice.
- It was felt that better access to services with knowledgeable, friendly, approachable staff was needed.
- People wanted more continuity and coordination between services.
- Service users expect staff to have extensive expertise, listen to them and treat them as individuals and with respect.

A New Paradigm.....

Connected Care aims to provide integrated health and social care services that's address the 'whole person' meeting their complex needs in terms of breadth (range of needs) and depth (severity of needs). Connected Care brings together health and social care, housing, education, employment, community safety and transport to meet the needs of local people.

The Main Aims of Connected Care

- Improving information, choice, access to services, continuity and coordination between services and workforce and service delivery.
- Tackling poverty, inequality and social exclusion to reduce the constant cycles of deprivation.
- Preventative work.
- Education on better health and care, allowing people to make informed choice.
- Dedicated service focusing on the 'whole person'
- Addressing community safety and ASB.

<u>Eligibility Criteria</u>

- Must live in Owton Manor
- The service is open to all, with specific attention to those:
 - > Not in contact with any other service,
 - Experiencing difficulties with their existing services or are not receiving the support they require,
 - Who have needs that are complex, either due to a range of need of the severity of their needs,
 - ► Hard to reach groups.
- The service is not compulsory, residents can still access services through the usual routes.

Accessing the Service

- Open access no formal referral required.
- Referrals can be taken from other agencies, providing you have the client's permission.
- Can be accessed in person at Manor Resident's Association (Kilmarnock Road), Housing Hartlepool (Wynyard Road) and at least one other outlet or via telephone, email or requesting home visit.

The Connected Care Team

- Service Coordinator to manage the service.
- Navigator's to provide a front line service, improving access to services, early intervention, support choice and ensure a holistic approach.
- Complex Care Team integrating specialist health, social care and housing support for residents with long-term needs.

Partnership Working

- HBC Adult and Community Services
- HBC Children's Services
- HBC Community Safety
- Hartlepool Primary Care Trust
- Housing Hartlepool
- Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Trusts
- Manor Residents Association
- Owton Fens Community Association
- Owton Manor West Resource Centre

<u>Outcomes</u>

- Improved health and life expectancy for residents.
- More choice around lifestyle and opportunities reducing poverty, inequality and social exclusion.
- Improved awareness of and access to services.
- Improved confidence and trust in services.
- More prosperous sustainable communities which reduces fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.
- Better education and employment opportunities.
- Better awareness of benefits and maximised take-up.
- Reduced cycles of deprivation and the poverty trap.

Contact Details

- Ray Harriman, Emma Wright, Rachel Short
- Telephone 01429 297201
- Fax 01429 863898
- Email connectedcare@aol.com

Report of: Head of Regeneration

Subject: ROSSMERE NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PLAN (NAP) UPDATE (FINAL FOR ENDORSEMENT)

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To seek endorsement of the Neighbourhood Action Plan Update for the Rossmere area.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Neighbourhood Action Plans are the local elements of the Hartlepool Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy. The Strategy forms part of the Community Strategy and the overall policy framework for the Borough, and sets out the long term vision for Hartlepool and the approach to the continuous improvement of services. NAPs have been developed in line with government policy for each of the Hartlepool wards which fall within the 10% most deprived wards nationally.
- 2.2 Neighbourhood Action Plans are important in encouraging local people and organisations to work together to narrow the gap between the most deprived wards and the rest of the country and they should be influential in the future allocation of resources. The objective of the NAP is to integrate policies at the local level to improve the way that services are provided.
- 2.3 The Rossmere Neighbourhood Action Plan was the fifth NAP to be successfully prepared for the town in 2005. The plan has been used by the Rossmere Forum (established as a result of the NAP) to identify how the Residents' Priorities Budget (allocated by the Hartlepool Partnership through its Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF) programme), would be spent.
- 2.4 The Rossmere Neighbourhood Action Plan is the fifth NAP to be updated, by the Regeneration Team, since the completion of six NAPs across the town; Dyke House/Stranton/Grange; Burbank; Rift House/Burn Valley; Owton and North Hartlepool. In addition to this, it should be noted that a NAP has been developed for the New Deal for Communities (NDC) area, undertaken by the NDC Staff Team, making seven in total across the town.
- 2.5 The Hartlepool Partnership agreed to allocate a further £17,000 of Residents' Priority Budget over the 2007/08 financial year specifically for the Rossmere Neighbourhood Action Plan area, allocated from the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund. These monies have been used to continue to address some of the residents' priorities identified in the existing plan. More recently, it has been confirmed that a further Residents' Priority Budget, totalling £18,000, has been allocated from the Council's Working Neighbourhoods Fund (WNF) for 2008/09.

CONSULTATION AND CURRENT POSITION 3.0

- 3.1 The Rossmere Neighbourhood Action Plan area lies to the south of the Borough and covers most of the Rossmere Ward. The NAP area also includes a small part of the Fens Ward, but does not include any residential properties. The area is bounded to the north by Brierton Lane and Belle Vue Way, to the west by Catcote Road into Torquay Avenue, Brenda Road in the east and reaches to and includes Queens Meadow Business Park in the south. The area has two distinct communities which are separated by Stockton Road. The area covers a fairly large community of approximately 2,510 households (JSU, 2006), which are predominantly owner occupied.
- 3.2 The community incorporates a good range of local facilities including local shopping parades at Jutland Road and lower Owton Manor Lane, community facilities such as Jutland Road Community Centre and Rossmere Community Building plus local churches at St James The Apostle Church on Rossmere Way and St Teresa's RC Church on Stockton Road. Rossmere Primary School and St Teresa's RC Primary School are also situated within the Neighbourhood Action Plan boundary.
- The Neighbourhood Action Plan Update has been developed through a 3.3 range of consultation sessions with residents, children and young people, the elderly, community/voluntary groups, Councillors and those who deliver services to the area (e.g. Cleveland Police, Hartlepool Borough Council Officers, Housing Hartlepool and Hartlepool Community Network). An initial community consultation event was held in November 2007 which was crucial in identifying the community's priority concerns and the actions required to address the concerns. Household survey data (lpsos MORI, 2006) and other baseline data and statistics have also provided an understanding of the conditions in the Rossmere NAP area.
- 3.4 As described above, a wide range of consultation sessions were carried out to develop and inform the Neighbourhood Action Plan Update. To complement this, comprehensive consultation was also undertaken to ensure comments were received from key stakeholders and residents on the draft. This further consultation included: -
 - Working with members of local organisations and groups such as Rossmere Residents' Association, Bramley Court Residents' Association, Rossmere Community Building Bingo Club, Rossmere Friendship Group, Friends of Rossmere Park and Rossmere Allotment Association;
 - Working with youth groups operating throughout the area for example, Rossmere Youth Club:
 - Visiting the Rossmere Forum;
 - Holding drop-in sessions at various community buildings;
 - Providing online consultations on Hartlepool Borough Council's online consultation system: http://consultation.hartlepool.gov.uk;
 - Delivering a newsletter to every household in the area;
 - Visiting and working with local primary and secondary schools;
 - Arranging meetings with key service providers including; Hartlepool Borough Council Officers, Housing Hartlepool, Cleveland Police,

voluntary/community groups, Ward Councillors and representatives from the Theme Partnerships; and

- Seeking comments at the Hartlepool Partnership and the Neighbourhoods and Communities Portfolio Holder, in addition to the South Neighbourhood Consultative Forum.
- 3.5 All comments received were very positive and constructive and have helped to formulate an accurate action plan for the area. Meetings with key service providers (which all Ward Councillors were invited to) have also enabled us to identify funding and resources for some of the actions required, encourage key service providers to confirm their commitment to the delivery of actions and to ensure both residents and service providers felt ownership of the plan.
- 3.6 This 'finalised' Neighbourhood Action Plan Update which includes all of the amendments suggested by consultees, has been taken for endorsement by the Rossmere Forum, the outcome of which will be reported verbally to the South Neighbourhood Consultative Forum. The NAP Update is also to be considered by the Neighbourhoods and Communities Portfolio Holder and the Hartlepool Partnership.
- 3.7 The final version will be placed on the Hartlepool Partnership and Hartlepool Borough Council's websites for future reference.

4.0 RESIDENTS' KEY CONCERNS

4.1 The information below illustrates some of the key issues which residents feel need to be addressed in order to improve the Rossmere NAP area:

4.2 Jobs and Economy

- Continue to address perceived barriers to employment opportunities (e.g. childcare issues) and increase access to basic skills / training provision.
- Improve the communication channels between residents and local businesses to maximise employment opportunities and to address issues that affect the area.
- Investigate further opportunities to improve bus transport links outside the area to enable residents to access employment / training opportunities and Schools (this mainly applies to the Jutland Road area).
- Encourage take up of employment opportunities, particularly those from the Jutland Road area.
- Encourage apprentices hip opportunities with employers.

4.3 Lifelong Learning and Skills

- Provide support to residents who face barriers to learning opportunities both locally and Borough wide.
- Continue to improve achievement and attainment in local schools and in adult learning to improve Not in Education / Employment / Training (NEET) figures.
- Continue to raise awareness of existing courses and opportunities available within the area.
- Assist residents who want to improve their skills for life.

 Provide support to those young people and parents / guardians who will be affected by the closure of Brierton Community School.

4.4 <u>Health and Care</u>

- Reduce the prevalence of smoking, which is higher than the Borough wide average.
- Encourage people living in Rossmere NAP area to have more healthy lifestyles.
- Address concerns surrounding the reduction in health care services in area, after the emergency care practitioner service was withdrawn from Wyn yard Road.
- Address issues associated with the loss of the Health Development Worker.
- Increase support for vulnerable people within the community including the elderly population.
- Improve access to GP and Dentist Surgeries, particularly in the Jutland Road area, and improve access to hospitals and other health professionals.

4.5 Community Safety

- Continue to investigate avenues to address anti-social behaviour and underage drinking in the area, especially the congregation of young people in certain areas including Jutland Road play area, Rossmere Park and local shopping parades.
- Tackle the illegal sale of alcohol to minors from local shopping parades.
- Further reduce the illegal use of off road motorbikes.
- Investigate the perceived drug culture in the area.
- Increase the take up of free home fire safety checks from Cleveland Fire Brigade.

4.6 Environment and Housing

- Address road safety issues including speed, volume of traffic issues and uneven road surfaces and pavements in the area.
- Continue to improve car parking issues across the area, particularly in the 'D' Block, Braemar Road and outside Bramley Court.
- Assess the extent of litter problems in the Rossmere area, and look at effective ways of reducing this problem.
- Continue to improve the appearance and maintenance of public spaces in the area, especially Rossmere Park.
- Continue to improve the appearance and maintenance of communal spaces and gardens in Housing Hartlepool accommodation.

4.7 <u>Culture and Leisure</u>

- Increase the use of community facilities in the area, particularly Jutland Road Community Centre.
- Promote existing activities available for the community, and increase activities where required.
- Improve open green spaces and play areas, to encourage increased usage and family congregation.
- Continue to support new activities in the area.

Continue to build on the success of Neighbourhood Policing and their involvement in culture and leisure activities/integration in the community.

4.8 Strengthening Communities

- Continue to encourage residents to be active in and across the community, particularly on the Jutland Road side.
- Increase the number of residents who feel they can influence decisions in their area.
- Increase the usage of Jutland Road Community Centre.
- Increase the provision of locations for young people to go and talk about their issues and problems.
- Promote existing groups in the area.

5.0 THE CONTENTS OF THE PLAN

- 5.1 The document has been structured in a way that is intended to give a clear picture of the strong themes running through the Neighbourhood Action Plan back to the Community Strategy and the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy.
- 5.2 The format of the document differs slightly from that of the original Rossmere Neighbourhood Action Plan endorsed in 2005 as well as the Dyke House/Stranton/Grange and Burbank NAP Updates. The format of the document does however reflect the format of the Owton NAP Update which has recently been endorsed. The template has been amended as a result of the findings of the NAP Review as well as taking on board suggestions for improvement from service providers who refer to the plan on a regular basis.
- 5.3 The first page of the plan is a map of the area. The introductory section which follows this continues to cover the background to Neighbourhood Action Plans, a brief description of the Rossmere neighbourhood, how the Rossmere NAP Update has been developed, and a summary of the community's main concerns.
- 5.4 The following section then comprises the seven theme areas: - Jobs and Economy; Lifelong Learning and Skills; Health and Care; Community Safety; Environment and Housing; Culture and Leisure and Strengthening Communities. Each theme identifies the key statistics, the strengths and weaknesses and the gaps in service delivery which need to be addressed. Following this is a table which identifies the community's priority concerns. which are highlighted above (paragraph 4.2 to 4.8 of this report), the actions that are required to address these concerns, a column to identify whether actions are short term (within one year), medium term (between one and five years) or long term (five + years), the organisations who need to be involved in delivering the actions, possible funding and resources and how the actions will contribute to addressing strategic targets (such as the Local Area Agreement Indicators).
- 5.5 The next section outlines the key resources and programmes delivered in the area/accessible to residents of the Rossmere Neighbourhood Action Plan area. These follow the seven theme areas identified in the paragraph

above. The last section of the plan is a list of abbreviations and jargon buster with a separate summary document to accompany the plan.

5.6 A residents' summary pamphlet is currently being produced. This will outline the priorities which the Rossmere Forum will be working to address from the updated plan, following their prioritisation exercise. This will be delivered to every household in the Rossmere NAP area to highlight the work of the Forum and encourage resident participation in the process.

6.0 IMPLEMENTATION

6.1 The Council's Neighbourhood Services Department has adopted a neighbourhood management role to assist in the implementation of all Neighbourhood Action Plans. The original Rossmere NAP brought together service providers and residents through the Rossmere Forum. The updated NAP will continue to be overseen at a local level by this group, managed by the South Neighbourhood Manager, along with being fundamental in considering allocations for the WNF Residents' Priority Budget. In addition, the Hartlepool Partnership's Theme Groups have an important role to play in monitoring plan progress on strategic issues across all of the seven themes, on an annual basis.

7.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

- 7.1 In addition to the WNF Residents' Priority Budget, the Neighbourhood Action Plan will also continue to be influential in the future allocation of resources. The NAP Update provides a strategic analysis of the current problems, gaps and priorities which could be tackled should any new funding streams emerge. Impact upon priorities is expected to be made by using more efficiently and effectively existing mainstream resources on the more disadvantaged areas. This will coincide with a continuous improvement to services by all partners, which often only involves a series of small adjustments and a more efficient co-ordination of activity. The objective of the NAP is to integrate policies at the local level to improve the way that services are provided.
- 7.2 As previously outlined in paragraph 2.5, the Hartlepool Partnership agreed to allocate a further £17,000 of Residents' Priority Budget over the 2007/08 financial year specifically for the Rossmere Neighbourhood Action Plan area from the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund. More recently, it has been confirmed that a further Residents' Priority Budget, totalling £18,000, has been allocated from the Council's Working Neighbourhoods Fund for 2008/09. The Rossmere Forum will continue to discuss with the South Neighbourhood Manager, Hartlepool Community Network, Housing Hartlepool and other key service providers how this funding and any subsequent match funding should be used to address some of the community's priority concerns.
- 7.3 There are no substantial risks in the Neighbourhood Action Plan process as the local NAP Forum is well established and has experience in the allocation of funding. There is however a degree of risk associated with securing future resources, over and above the existing WNF monies for 2008/09. The

Local Forum and the relevant officers will however be continually working in partnership with other service providers/organisations to ensure that every funding opportunity is utilised.

8.1

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 The South Neighbourhood Consultative Forum is requested to **endorse the Neighbourhood Action Plan Update** for the Rossmere area subject to endorsement from the Neighbourhoods and Communities Portfolio Holder and the Hartlepool Partnership.

9.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 As previously outlined in paragraph 2.3, the Rossmere Neighbourhood Action Plan was the fifth NAP to be successfully prepared for the town in 2005 and the plan was used as a base by the Rossmere Forum to identify how the NRF Residents' Priorities Budget, would be spent.
- 9.2 The Rossmere Forum comprising residents, (including representatives from the local Residents Associations established in the area), Ward Councillors, community/voluntary groups, the Borough Council and other key organisations such as Housing Hartlepool, Hartlepool Community Network and Cleveland Police, has successfully spent over £91,000 of funding for the neighbourhood over 2005-2008.
- 9.3 Schemes supported are wide ranging and include car parking improvements in Arbroath Grove, Caithness Road, Campbell Road and Thirsk Grove, the provision of youth workers on Friday and Saturday evenings in Rossmere Park, arts and crafts workshops, IT classes plus various activities provided by local community/voluntary organisations.
- 9.4 The endorsement of the Rossmere Neighbourhood Action Plan Update will enable local people and organisations to continue to work together in allocating the WNF Residents' Priority Budget to address some of the local priorities, to successfully integrate policies at a local level and improve the ways that services are provided, to achieve goals of lower unemployment and crime, better health, skills, housing and physical environment, and a stronger community with improved culture and leisure opportunities.
- 9.5 The Neighbourhood Action Plan Update will also continue to look at how services can be made more efficient and effective for the local community and help local service providers and users to continue to ensure that gaps between existing and desired services are identified and considered by service providers, to effectively add value and improve the quality of life in the Rossmere NAP area.
- 9.6 The Neighbourhood Action Plan Update will be influential in the future allocation of resources as it provides a framework for opportunities if further funding/resources become available.

BACKGROUND PAPERS 10.0

10.1 The original Rossmere Neighbourhood Action Plan was endorsed by the South Neighbourhood Consultative Forum on 07 October 2005, what used to be the Regeneration and Liveability Portfolio Holder on 21 October 2005 and the Hartlepool Partnership on 21 October 2005. As stated in paragraph 5.1, the NAP document relates back to the Community Strategy and the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy.

11.0 CONTACT OFFICER

- Gemma Clough, Principal Regeneration Officer, Regeneration and Planning 11.1 Services, Bryan Hanson House, Hanson Square, Hartlepool, TS24 7BT. Tel: 01429 523598. E-mail: gemma.clough@hartlepool.gov.uk.
- 11.2 The summary document highlighting the priority concerns of the local community, and the actions to address these concerns is attached for information. Copies of the Neighbourhood Action Plan document will be made available at the meeting. If however you would like a copy prior to this, please do not hesitate to contact the named officer detailed above.

Rossmere Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) Update Summary Document

This document highlights the priority concerns along with the actions to address these concerns, as identified in the final version of the plan which is to be taken for endorsement, March 2008.

Jobs and Economy	
Priority Concerns	Actions
Continue to address perceived barriers to employment opportunities (e.g. childcare issues) and increase access to basic skills / training provision.	 Improve training and skills opportunities for local people. Local service providers to work together to address barriers to employment. Further publicise existing childcare provision to raise awareness.
Improve the communication channels between residents and local businesses to maximise employment opportunities and to address issues that affect the area.	 Encourage local businesses to employ local residents. Encourage local business representatives to attend the Rossmere Forum. Encourage residents from the Jutland Road area to link with businesses from Park View and Tofts Farm Industrial Estate.
Investigate further opportunities to improve bus transport links outside the area to enable residents to access employment / training opportunities and Schools (this mainly applies to the Jutland Road area).	 Explore the opportunities to increase the frequency of public transport in the area, especially to other parts of the Borough. Liaise with Stagecoach and HBC Transport Coordinator to see if resources can be put in place for more frequent/later service to be introduced for the area.
Encourage take up of employment opportunities, particularly those from the Jutland Road area.	 Provide more learning opportunities in basic skills which are tailored to the needs of local residents. Further publicise Jobs Clubs within a close proximity to the area. Ensure that specialist advisors are available / accessible within the area to provide advice to residents.
Encourage apprenticeship opportunities with employers.	 Work with local employers to discuss potential apprenticeship opportunities.

Lifelong Learning and Skills

Priority Concerns	Actions
Provide support to residents who face barriers to learning opportunities both locally and Borough wide.	 Liaise with local service providers to ensure that affordable childcare places are available to allow parents / guardians to take up training opportunities. Ensure local courses are run at different times of the day, especially in the Jutland Road area and in a range of different venues to ensure that people have the choice of what courses to attend. Further publicise existing childcare provision to raise awareness.
Continue to improve achievement and attainment in local schools and in adult learning to improve Not in Education / Employment / Training (NEET) figures.	 Continue to raise the awareness within schools of the importance of qualifications by promoting the benefits of education and training. Assess the amount of support that is available for school leavers. Continue to encourage young people whilst they are still at school to consider further education and training opportunities.
Continue to raise awareness of existing courses and opportunities available within the area.	 Promote existing provision throughout the Rossmere NAP area. Establish what the education and training facilities are already operating in the area as well as the gaps in provision. Ensure that educational and training facilities that are not presently available to the public are considered to see if they can be provided in the future to enhance the employability of local people.
Assist residents who want to improve their skills for life.	 Provide facilities in the area at suitable times for residents to improve their literacy skills.
Provide support to those young people and parents / guardians who will be affected by the closure of Brierton Community School.	 Ensure that support services are available for those who will be affected by the closure of Brierton Community School through the Building School for the Future (BSF) Programme. Continue to provide a contact point and sign posting services for pupils and parents who may have any queries regarding the closure of the school.

Health and Care

Priority Concerns	Actions
Reduce the prevalence of smoking, which is higher than the Borough wide average. Encourage people living in	 Advertise support services that are currently available to ensure people who want to stop smoking are aware of where they need to go for help and support. Educate young people about the dangers of smoking. Continue to publicise and provide 'Healthy Eating' initiatives and education.
Rossmere NAP area to have more healthy lifestyles.	 Investigate providing further localised 'Healthy Eating' initiatives and education to fill any gaps. Encourage residents of all ages to take part in physical and leisure activities. Advertise physical and leisure facilities that are available in the area including any concessionary rates. Ensure that support services are available to enable people to undertake physical and leisure activities, e.g. crèche and nursery facilities. Continue to work towards developing and strengthening existing care programmes. Increase awareness of the importance of health for good self-esteem / strong relationships.
Address concerns surrounding the reduction in health care services in area, after the emergency care practitioner service was withdrawn from Wynyard Road.	 Explore possibility of providing outreach emergency health drop in sessions at local venues. Publicise health care services that are currently available on an outreach basis in the area.
Address issues associated with the loss of the Health Development Worker.	 Investigate the possibility of providing more health services on an outreach basis – for example health drop-in clinics and Health Bus.
Increase support for vulnerable people within the community including the elderly population.	 More low level support required. Implementation of the Citizenship Strategy through 50+ Forum. Adaptations required to housing to allow the elderly to live on their own comfortably. Promote local clubs, which the elderly can attend.
Improve access to GP and Dentist Surgeries, particularly in the Jutland Road area, and improve access to hospitals and other health professionals.	 Increase access to health services e.g. GP's, Dentists, Hospitals and other health professionals on an evening during the week and on Saturdays. Investigate the possibility of locating doctors and dentists to the area.

Community Safety

Priority Concerns	Actions
Continue to investigate avenues to address anti-social behaviour and underage drinking in the area, especially the congregation of young people in certain areas including Jutland Road play area, Rossmere Park and local shopping parades.	 Encourage residents to report incidents of anti-social behaviour including acts of graffiti, vandalism, burglary, arson, fighting and intimidation to the Neighbourhood Policing Team Tel. 01429 235811, Anti-Social Behaviour Unit Tel. 01429 296588 or Cleveland Police Tel. 01642 326326 (Police Headquarters). Continue to increase the presence and high visibility patrols of PC's and PCSO's in order to maintain reduced crime levels and the good relationship with the local community. Assess the current litter (including broken bottles), security (including Police Patrols), CCTV and lighting provision within Rossmere Park, plus its opening times, bearing in mind that the play area is floodlit to assist CCTV monitoring and the withdrawal of the lighting to stop football activity in the park could have implications. Explore the opportunity of creating further diversionary activities for young people, in order to deter them from vandalising bus shelters, play equipment in Rossmere Park
	 and Jutland Road play area, playing football in residential areas, and causing damage to nearby properties. Also look at ways of deterring young people from throwing objects at windows, breaking windows, congregating and drinking in certain areas including Balmoral Court, the alleyway in Campbell Road (leading to the rear of the shops), the bus shelter at the bottom of Rossmere Way, in Rossmere Park and at local shopping parades. Explore the possibility of using designated action to counter anti-social behaviour and alcohol related nuisance behaviour, where appropriate. Seek to increase Police enforcement activities in 'hotspots' and further promote the reporting system so that residents understand and have confidence in reporting incidences.
Tackle the illegal sale of alcohol to minors from local shopping parades.	 Continue to work with local shops, particularly those on Rossmere Way to encourage employees to ask for ID for alcohol purchases in order to tackle the illegal sale of alcohol to minors. Encourage residents to report incidents of sale of alcohol to minors, including incidents of alcohol purchased by adults on behalf of minors, as evidence needs to be provided to prove the purchase of alcohol to minors is occurring at licensed premises.

Community Safety (continued ...)

Priority Concerns	Actions
Further reduce the illegal use of off	 Aim to further reduce the illegal off road motorbike usage in 'hotspot' areas such as
road motorbikes.	green areas and the footpath leading to Tees Bay Industrial Estate.
	 Residents to report all illegal motorbike incidents.
	 Raise awareness of the dangers and responsibilities of using a motorbike.
	 Look to provide a recreational off-road motorcycling facility in Hartlepool in an area
	acceptable to local residents.
Investigate the perceived drug	• Assess the scale of the problem in the area, including in the vicinity of Jutland Road and
culture in the area.	seek to increase drug related enforcement activities in order to reduce the amount of
	drug users and associated litter.
	 Residents to provide specific information regarding persons committing illegal activity to
	the Neighbourhood Policing Team Tel. 01429 235811 or Cleveland Police Tel. 01642
	326326 (Police Headquarters).
	 Residents to contact Hartlepool Borough Council immediately on Tel. 01429 523333 if
	any discarded syringes or needles are found. Arrangements will then be made for their
	removal as soon as possible. NB: residents are strongly advised not to touch any
	syringes or needles found.
	 Continue to increase the presence and high visibility patrols of PC's and PCSO's in
	order to maintain reduced crime levels and ensure that good relationships are continued
	to be built with the local community, especially young people.
	 Continue to develop initiatives to increase awareness and educate the community,
	particularly young people of the dangers surrounding the use of illegal substances and
	associated litter.
Increase the take up of free home	 Increase publicity around the free smoke alarms and home fire safety checks along with
fire safety checks from Cleveland	improving fire safety in the home.
Fire Brigade.	 Continue to advertise this scheme through Housing Hartlepool newsletters and local
	community newsletters.
	 Liaise with Accredited Landlords to promote these checks for their properties.

Environment and Housing

Priority Concerns	Actions
Address road safety issues including speed, volume of traffic issues and uneven road surfaces and pavements in the area.	 Carry out a traffic audit of the Rossmere NAP area and identify problem areas. Improve road safety in identified problem areas through appropriate traffic calming measures. Including congestion prevention and lowering speed limits in school areas. Ensure improvements are in appropriate places to prevent further issues e.g. traffic island on Rossmere Way. Investigate placing mobile speed cameras within in the Rossmere area as a deterrent to speeding. Improve uneven and patched road surfaces and pavements across the area specifically Jutland Road adjacent to the Jutland Road Community Centre, Newholm Court, Rossmere Way and the remainder of Caithness Road. Look at the provision of grit boxes across the Rossmere area (to help prevent icy pavements) in particular Bramley Court and Alford Court. Replace and increase provision where necessary. Look at the possibility of installing an illuminated 'speeding' sign on Rossmere Way.
Continue to improve car parking issues across the area, particularly in the 'D' Block, Braemar Road and outside Bramley Court.	 Look at the possibility of installing an indiminated speeding sign of Rossnere Way. Investigate the parking issues in the Rossmere area and increase the parking provision in problem areas. Discuss and consult with relevant parties (including local residents) all issues / options and the feasibility of further car parking schemes. N.B. Residents would prefer to preserve green/open space throughout the area and would request that alternative methods other than tarmacking are considered as a solution to the car parking issues. The Education Development Centre (EDC) on Seaton Lane was cited as an example of this where parking had been provided but surface treatment used had enabled grass to continue to grow. Address issues of non-residents parking in Housing Hartlepool housing complexes e.g. Bramley and Ardrossan Court. Possibility of 'residents only' signage in car parks.
Assess the extent of litter problems in the Rossmere area, and look at effective ways of reducing this problem.	 Ensure that refuse collectors effectively clear rubbish from an area, especially if recycling has been displaced due to windy weather conditions. Address issues associated with refuse and recycling collections e.g. recycling provision and encourage residents to remove wheelie bins and recycling boxes / bags from the kerbside as soon at the collection has been made. Look at the provision of road sweepers in the Rossmere area. Alleviate problems of litter gathering across the area, including alleyways (especially between Dunbar Road and Dundee Road), front gardens especially in Jutland Road,

Environment and Housing (co	ontinued)
Continued	 verges along Rossmere Way and Rossmere allotments. Develop a targeted approach to education and enforcement regarding waste management issues including recycling. Develop community projects to help address littering issues in Rossmere Park, work with local schools. Address the dog fouling problem on public open green space in the Rossmere NAP area (in particular on the football pitches on Rossmere Way), through increased enforcement of fines, clearer signage and additional dog litter bins if required.
Continue to improve the appearance and maintenance of public spaces in the area, especially Rossmere Park.	 Address maintenance issues within Rossmere Park especially the furniture within the park (inc. play equipment), graffiti and litter. Look at the possibility of undertaking a full assessment of the park including security, lighting, access, opening times and facilities. Address issues of fly tipping in the Rossmere area through increased enforcement. Improve the play park provision in the Rossmere area, particularly Rossmere Park and the play area opposite Jutland Road Community Centre. Continue to maintain and enhance the environmental significance of the Rossmere area by looking to replace trees with a phased replacement of the tree stock within the Rossmere area, particularly along Rossmere Way and in the School grounds. Improve the collection of grass cuttings once areas have been mowed and ensure that grass verges are edged and weeded.
Continue to improve the appearance and maintenance of communal spaces and gardens in Housing Hartlepool accommodation.	 Ensure that the bushes / shrubs in the gardens / parking areas at Housing Hartlepool accommodation are regularly maintained to enable residents to use these amenities.

Culture and Leisure

Priority Concerns	Actions
Increase the use of community facilities in the area, particularly Jutland Road Community Centre.	 Investigate the possibility of prioritising groups using local community buildings, so that local groups are considered before groups based outside the area. Provide new activities for example, a Jobs Club for Rossmere residents. Publicise events, activities and facilities more effectively and to create an integrated timetable of all the area's activities. Further improve communication between service providers and local residents. Build other partnerships within the community for example, with Faith communities. Ensure community representatives and community / voluntary organisations are better informed of what activities are available. Commission a User Survey for the Jutland Road Community Centre to establish community requirements. Overcome any barriers which the local community face when accessing Jutland Road Community Centre. Investigate capacity to increase public library services to the area within the Public Library Forward Plan process, particularly through using Jutland Road Community Centre as a venue. Continue the work which is currently ongoing towards the opening of the fitness room at Jutland Road Community Centre. Where feasible, encourage the use of the new I.T suite in operation at the Jutland Road Community Centre site.
Promote existing activities available for the community, and increase activities where required.	 Provide more cultural experiences for residents from the area. Provide more activities for teenagers (such as an Internet Café and discos for under 18s). Continue close work between St James' The Apostle Church and other churches in the area, and Friends of Rossmere Park. Provide childcare/crèche facilities and publicity alongside courses to allow parents to attend. Engage with Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme to ensure community provision is improved and increased, where possible.
Improve open green spaces and play areas, to encourage increased usage and family congregation.	 Develop partnership funding opportunities to improve green spaces. Refurbish outside Basketball Court at Rossmere Youth Centre. Improve the Rossmere Park play area and continue to look at the possibility of a new play area being provided at Jutland Road, in consultation with the local community, as

Culture and Leisure (continued ...)

Continued	some funding has already been secured towards this development.Increase police patrols to reduce damage to facilities.
Continue to support new activities in the area.	 Identify the needs of particular groups and develop shared activities.
Continue to build on the success of Neighbourhood Policing and their involvement in culture and leisure activities/integration in the community.	 Seek to maintain Police presence in the area, to continue the good relationship between the neighbourhood PCs, PCSOs and the local community. PCs and PCSOs to continue enforcement and crime prevention work.

Priority Concerns	Actions
Continue to encourage residents to be active in and across the community, particularly on the Jutland Road side.	 Continue to provide support, assistance and encouragement to residents already involved in groups and residents associations. Raise the profile and further promote awareness of the role of the Rossmere Forum. Realise the potential for partnership working through the NAP process. Identify ways to bring the two separate communities together more.
Increase the number of residents who feel they can influence decisions in their area.	 Encourage local residents to become more involved in the community and better able to influence decisions. Raise awareness of the Rossmere Forum and its activities with a view to engaging more resident involvement. Provide training for residents, community / voluntary sector groups to improve skills and capacity building.
Increase the usage of Jutland Road Community Centre.	 Seek to use the facilities at Jutland Road Community Centre to their full potential for residents of the area. Raise the awareness, promote and advertise the activities and facilities which are available at Jutland Road Community Centre.
Increase the provision of locations for young people to go and talk about their issues and problems.	 Explore the possibility of expanding existing youth services for young people to access. Explore the possibility of further opening schools up on a night to hold extra activities for young people.

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Strengthening Communities (continued)	
Promote existing groups in the area.	 Improve publicity and increase advertisement of the activities of groups operating in the area. Develop a Community database and index of community groups and activities operating in the area. Improve communication and support available for newly formed groups to assist with their continued development.